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11 Pages

NPIC/R-334/63
December 1963

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

LAUNCH COMPLEX G
TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR
CHANGES 25X1

DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD



CIA

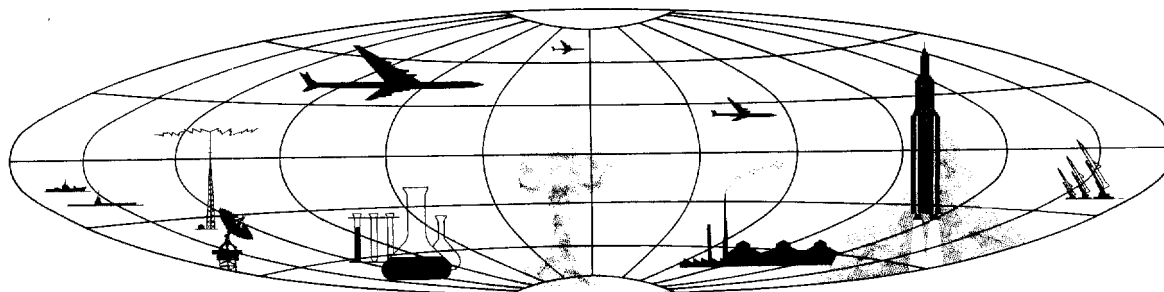


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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

LAUNCH COMPLEX G
TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR
CHANGES SINCE

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NPIC/R-334/63
December 1963

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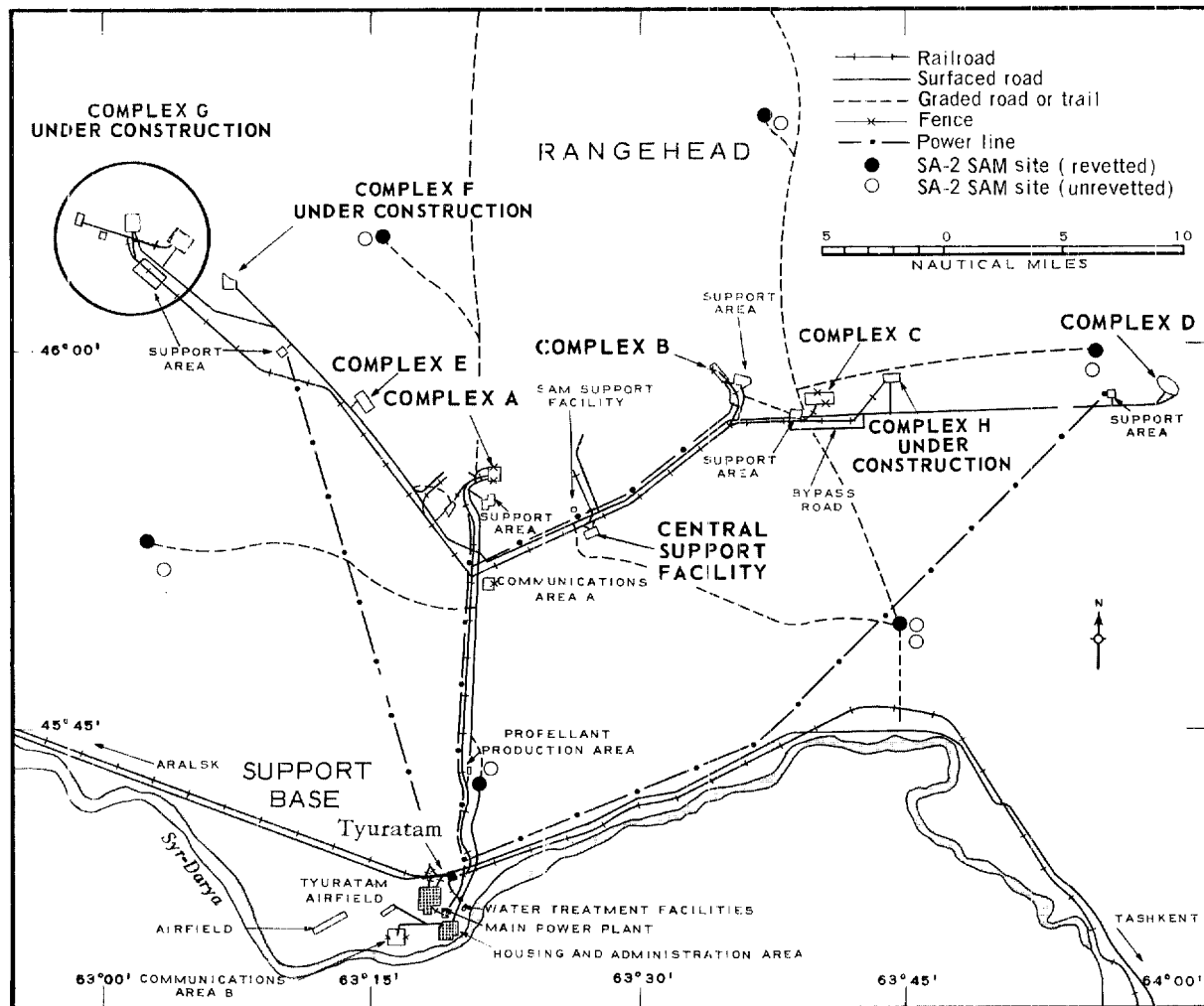


FIGURE 1. TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER.

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INTRODUCTION

This report, based on [] photography of [], updates an earlier NPIC report 1/ on construction progress at Launch Complex G at the Tyuratam Missile Test Center (Figure 1), which included data through []

covered, with cloud shadow and haze in the unclouded portions; detailed interpretation was also hindered by the lack of stereoscopic coverage. The photography of [] was cloud free and of good quality, but defects in the photography exposed in the forward camera reduced the effectiveness of stereoscopic coverage.

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SUMMARY

The previously reported area of unidentified activity 2 nautical miles (nm) east of the original launch area is now considered to be a second launch area containing two probable launch pads under construction. The original area is designated Launch Area G1/G2 and the second, Launch Area G3/G4.

Construction progress at Launch Area G1/G2 includes the probable completion of pad G1; pad G2 is still under construction, although the missile-ready building serving the pad appears

to be complete and a missile service tower similar to that at pad G1 has been erected.

The support area for Launch Complex G is apparently very close to completion, and little change has been observed. However, a large excavation adjacent to the missile assembly/checkout building may be a significant addition.

The areas of unidentified activity west of Launch Complex G have not changed significantly.

LAUNCH AREA G1/G2

Details of the launch area could not be discerned on the photography of [], and only gross features could be identified (Figure 2). The high tower previously located between G1 and the missile-ready building serving it had been moved into the pad area. An unidentified object (probably a tower in a horizontal position on the ground) was observed between G2 and its missile-ready building.

Launch pad G1 and its service facilities appear complete (Figure 3) on the photography of []. The rounded concrete pad is approximately 190 feet

in diameter, with a circular configuration 60 feet in diameter in the center. An unidentified object 60 by 20 feet is positioned on the pad, with its long axis aligned with the rail spur from the missile-ready building. Two towers are situated diagonally across the pad, on the outer edges. The bunkered buildings flanking the pad are earth-mounded on three sides; the fourth side, adjacent to the pad, appears to be surfaced with thick concrete. A low mounded linear trace (probably a conduit) extends northwest from the left bunkered building to a small unidentified object which may be an entrance-way. A small building adjacent to the south-

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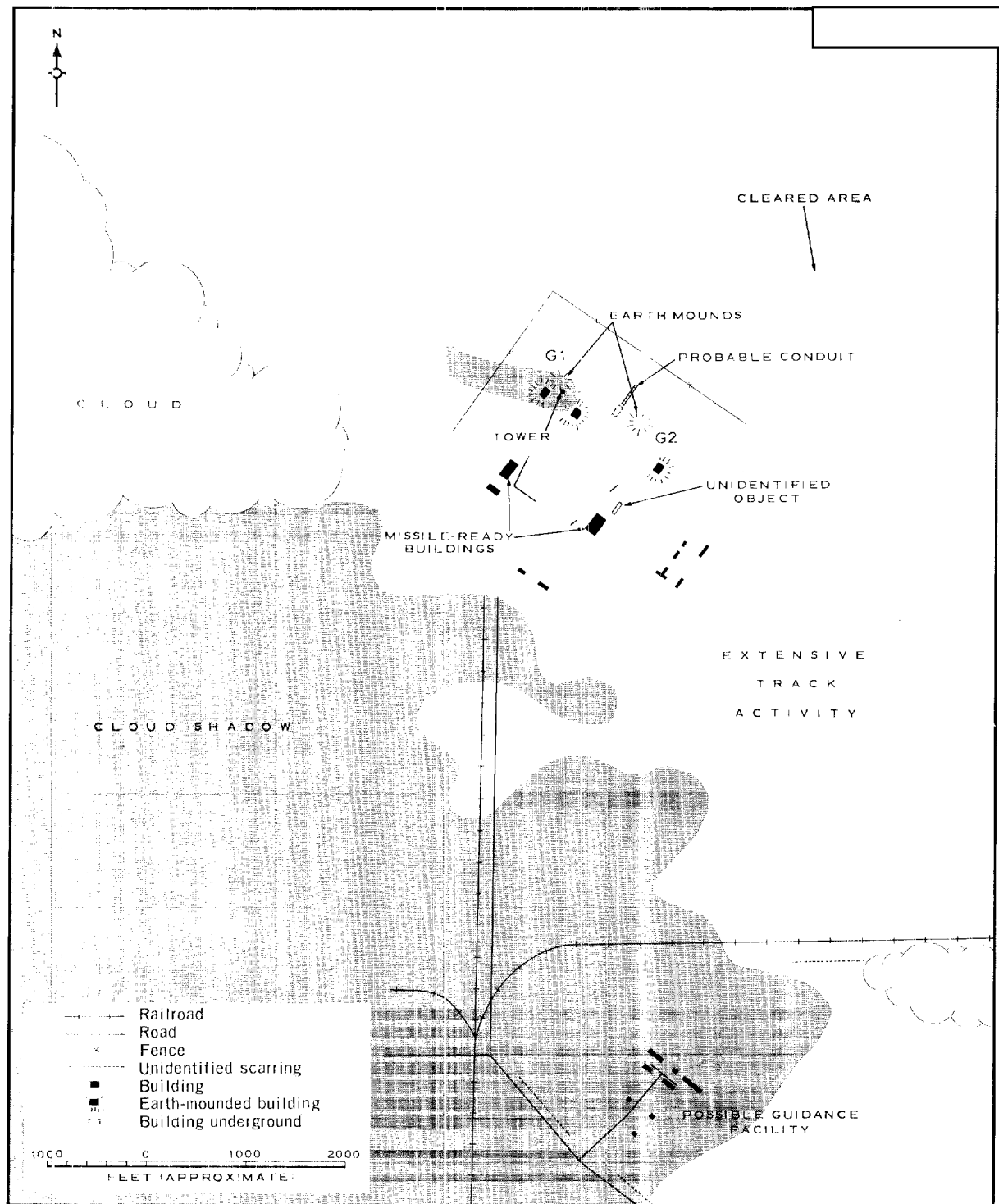


FIGURE 2. LAUNCH AREA G1/G2, [redacted]

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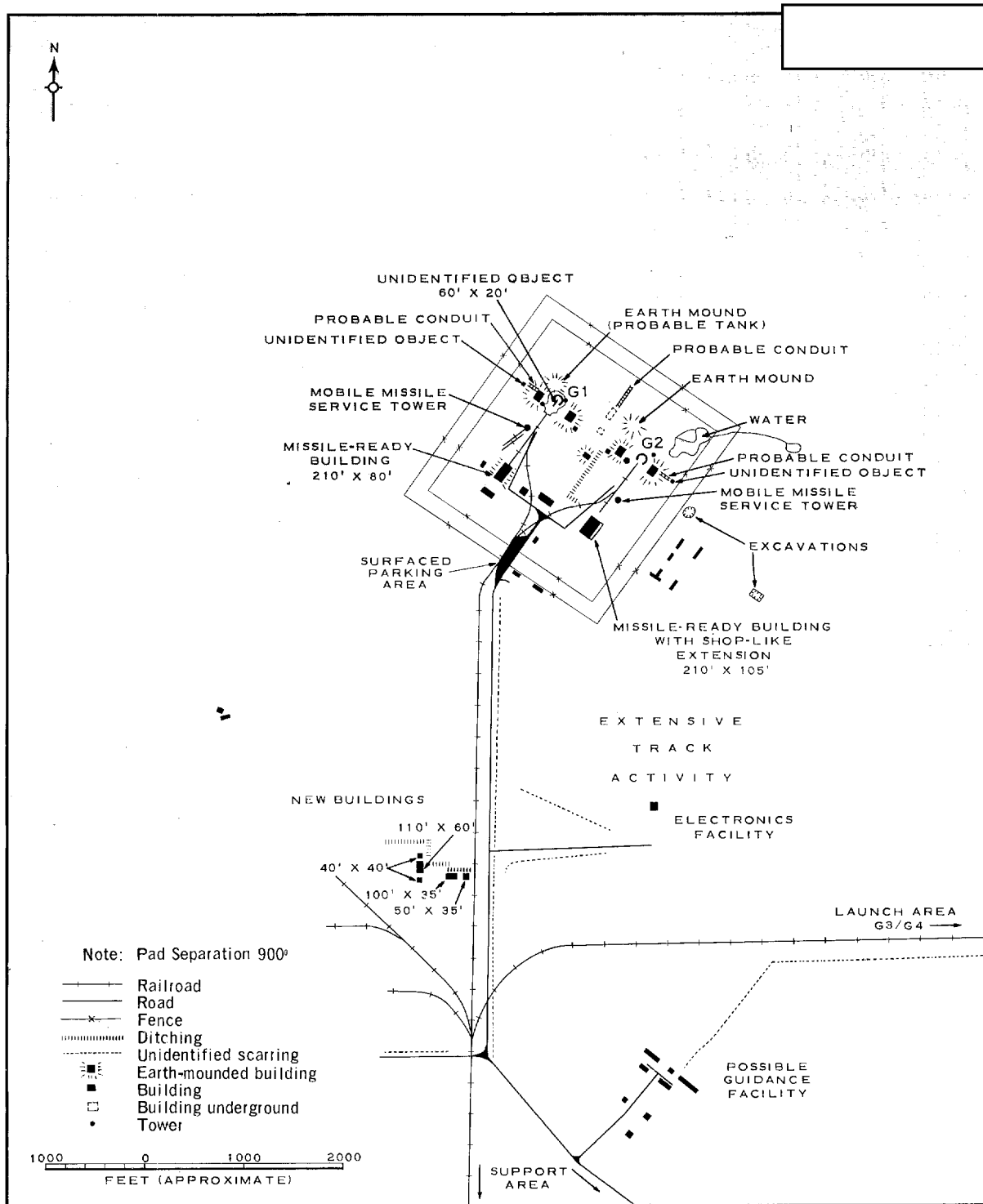


FIGURE 3. LAUNCH AREA G1/G2,

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25X1D east side of the right bunkered building may also be an entranceway. The mobile missile service tower (previously referred to as a high tower on [REDACTED], mounted on rails aligned at a slight angle to the axis of the missile-ready building and the launch pad, is positioned between the two facilities. The probable underground tank north of the launch pad has been earth-mounded.

25X1D Launch pad G2, which apparently will be a mirror image of pad G1, is still under construction (Figure 3) on the photography of [REDACTED]. Pad G2 does not appear to be surfaced, as yet, and the circular configuration in the center of the pad is not as clearly defined as that at pad G1. There are two towers situated diagonally across the pad, in the same relative positions as those

at pad G1. The bunkered buildings flanking pad G2 are also earth-mounded on three sides, with the fourth side also apparently surfaced with thick concrete. A low mounded linear trace (probably a conduit) extends southeast from the right bunkered building to a small unidentified object which may be an entranceway. A small building adjacent to the southwest side of the left bunkered building may also be an entranceway. A mobile missile-service tower similar to the one near pad G1 is located between pad G2 and the missile-ready building serving it. The ready building serving pad G2 is not earth-mounded, and has a shop-like extension along its southeast side.

Details of the electronics facility south of Launch Area G1/G2 were not apparent on the [REDACTED]

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LAUNCH AREA G3/G4

25X1D A confirmed launch area could not be identified on the photography of [REDACTED]
25X1D [REDACTED] but at least 13 buildings, 5 of which were under construction, could be discerned (Figure 4). There were two indistinct excavations approximately 1,900 feet apart in the northern part of the area, and security fencing along a portion of the west side. Unidentified ground scarring, some of which was probably ditching, was also observed in various parts of the area.

25X1D The launch area (Figure 4) was identified on the photography of [REDACTED]
25X1D [REDACTED]

The two rectangular excavations, designated G3 and G4, are the probable locations of the launch pads. The excavations measure approximately 400 by 200 feet and are about 40 feet deep. The sides are sloped, with a terrace level about halfway down. The unidentified object, about 80 feet square, at the

bottom of the eastern excavation (G4) may be an accumulation of water. Each excavation has two small, apparently identical, buildings flanking it. The pattern of building construction behind the excavations suggests that similar groups of structures will be associated with each excavation. A pair of unidentified scars or traces extends southward from each of the excavations. There are five additional buildings, two probable tanks, and extensive ditching in the area between these scars. The segmented security fencing on the west side of the launch area is being extended along the southern and eastern sides. There are five small buildings and an open storage area outside the southern fence segment, near the rail and road entrances to the launch area, and three unidentified buildings approximately 1,500 feet to the west-northwest. The road into the launch area terminates near the center of the area; the rail spur terminates at the southern

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fenceline, but a curved earth embankment extending to a point southeast of G4 suggests

that additional rail facilities are under construction.

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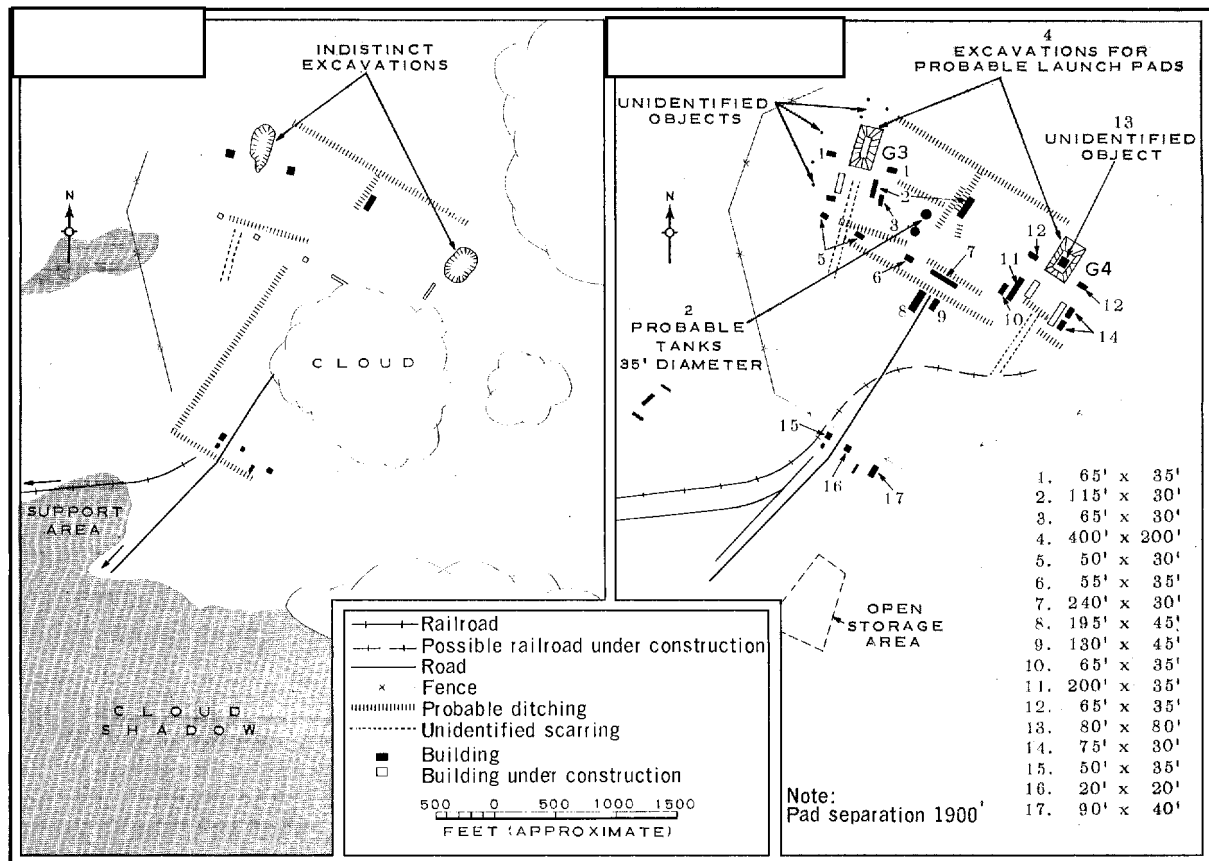


FIGURE 4. LAUNCH AREA G3/G4.

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SUPPORT AREA

Details of the support area for Launch Complex G were not discernible on the photography of [redacted] and only gross features could be identified (Figure 5). Evidence of a large excavation just northwest of the missile assembly/checkout building could be detected through the cloud shadow.

A few newly identified features were observed at the support area on the photography of [redacted], but no

major changes were noted (Figure 6). The excavation adjacent to the rail-through (two tracks) missile assembly/checkout building is 375 by 140 feet, and may be the beginning of a second such building. A tank, 85 feet in diameter, is located near the rail spurs east-southeast of the missile assembly/checkout building. About 300 feet east of the tank is a building with a stack, identified as a probable heat/power plant. Several other smaller build-

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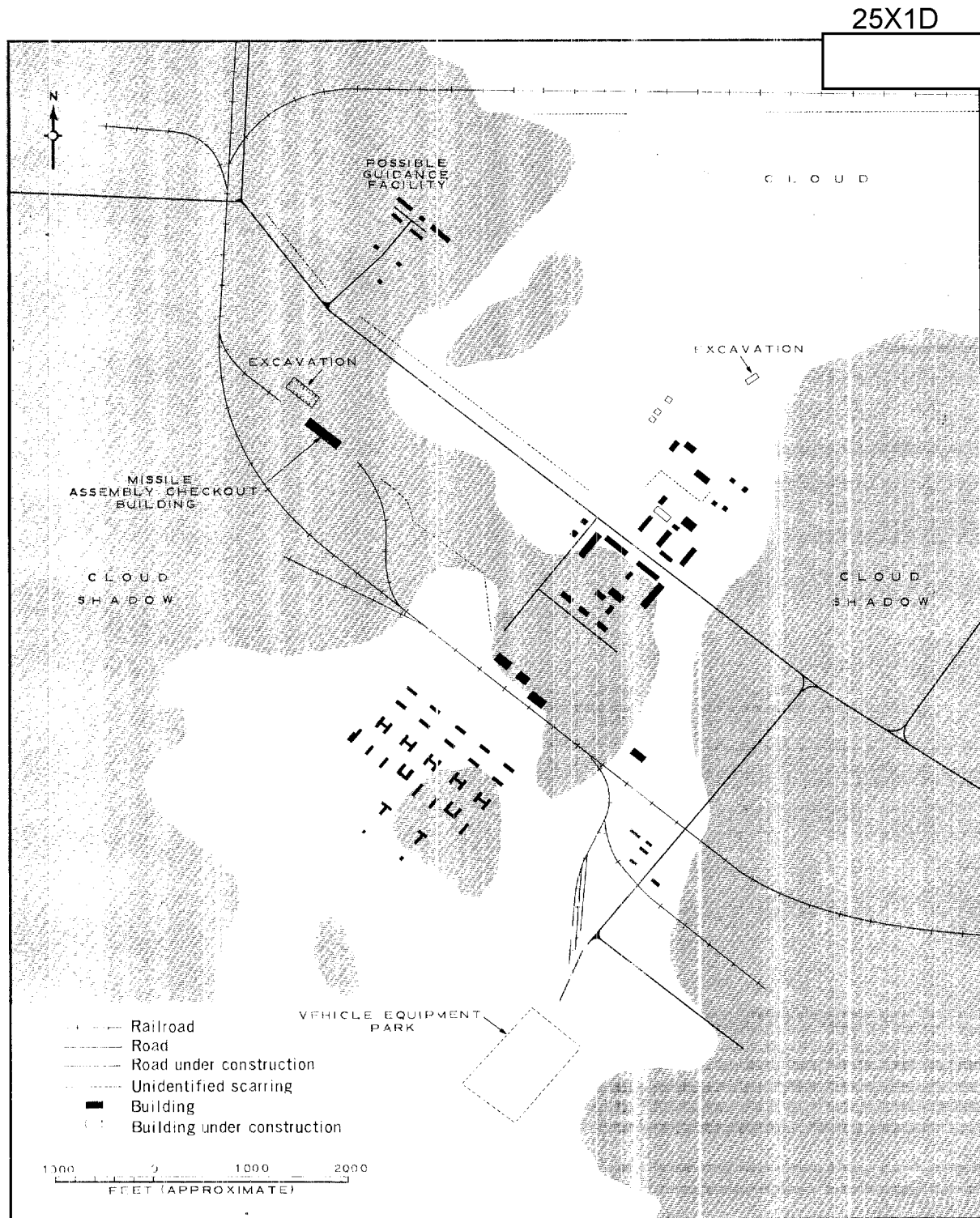


FIGURE 5. SUPPORT AREA, 25X1D

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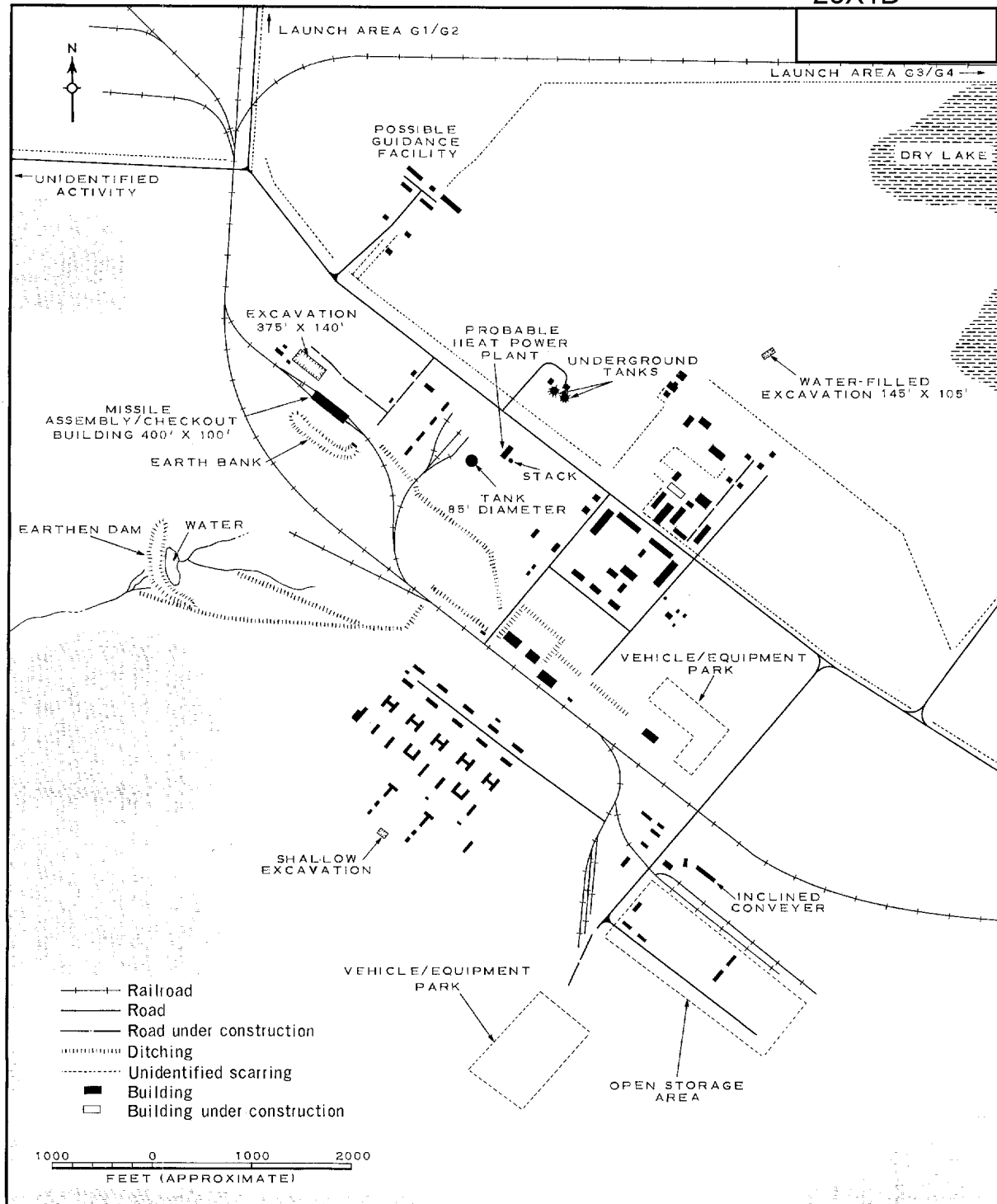


FIGURE 6. SUPPORT AREA,

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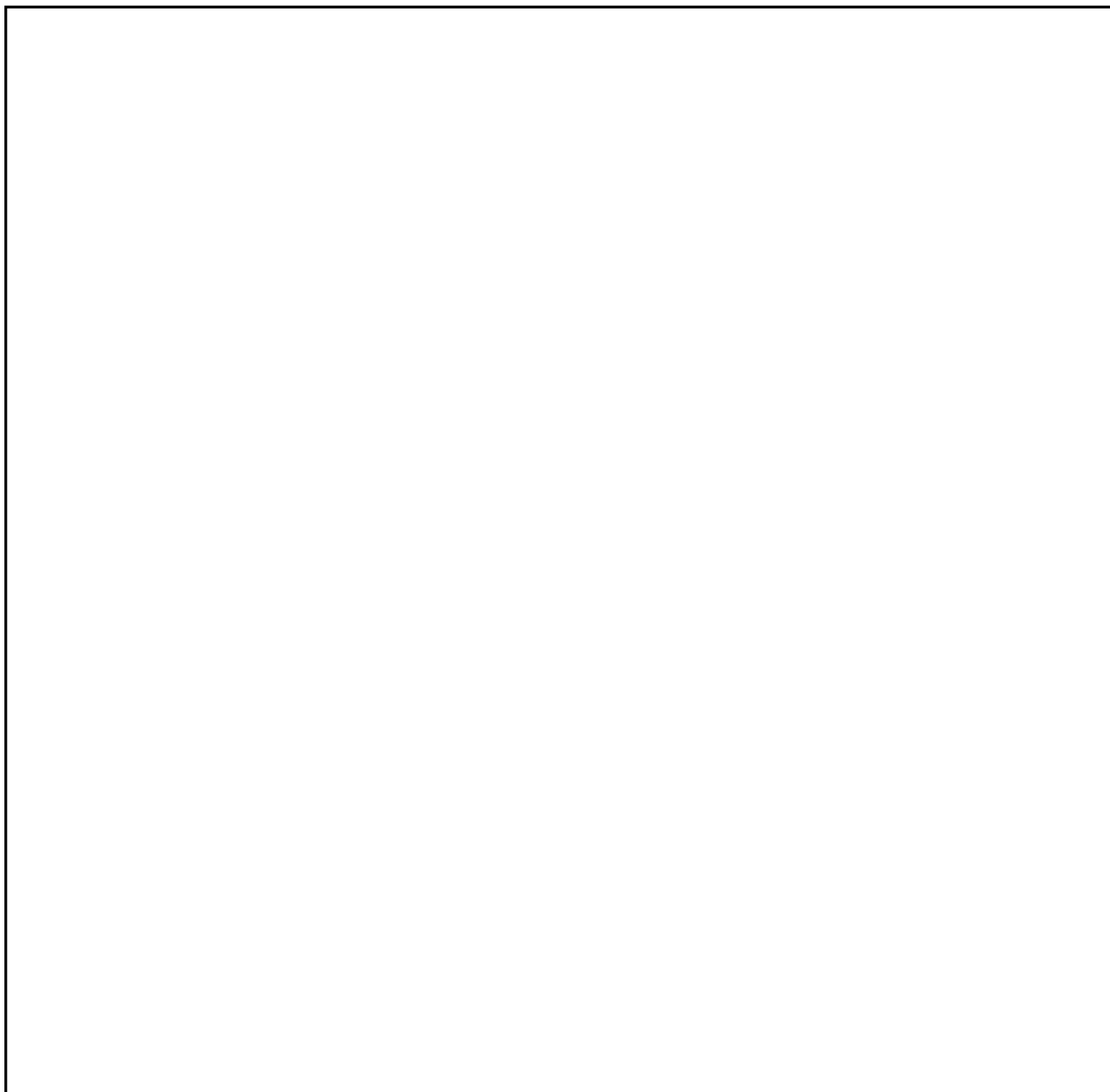
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ings have been added in various sections of the support area. A low earthen dam has been constructed across a natural drain in the western part of the area, and a water-filled excavation is located in the northeast part. Ditch-

ing is evident at several points in the area, and there is unidentified ground scarring along the main roads and rail lines to the launch areas and the areas of unidentified activity west of Launch Complex G.

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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

<u>Mission</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Camera</u>	<u>Frames</u>	<u>Classification</u>
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MAPS OR CHARTS

DESPA. Series 1, Sheet NL 41-5, 1st ed, Nov 62, scale 1:250,000 (TOP SECRET [])

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DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC. R-288/63, Construction Progress at Launch Complex G, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, Nov 63 (TOP SECRET [])

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RELATED DOCUMENTS

NPIC. R-85/63, Launch Complex G, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, May 63 (TOP SECRET [])

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REQUIREMENT

CIA. ORR/C-RR3-80,532

NPIC PROJECT

J-305/63

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